

GERALDTON FIRE STATION

1078. Mr I.C. BLAYNEY to the Minister for Emergency Services:

I refer to the status of the former Geraldton fire station on the corner of Durlacher Street and Anzac Terrace and future plans for the site.

- (1) Has the minister's office had a request from the City of Greater Geraldton about this site?
- (2) Will the minister agree to gift this site to the city, given that it has been sitting vacant and unused for at least four years?

Mr F.M. LOGAN replied:

- (1)–(2) I thank the member for the question. The issue of the Geraldton fire station has gone on for a fair bit. As the member knows, it has been empty since the new station was opened quite a number of years ago. The ownership and occupation of that station has been sought by quite a number of people in Geraldton. As the member may or may not know, under the Fire and Emergency Services Act, the commissioner is not allowed to give away or gift any fire station. It can be used only for the purposes of fire and emergency services. However, as the member knows, we have had the men's shed in there on a temporary basis through working with the City of Greater Geraldton. The final resting place for the fire station will be as a result of discussions between the commissioner, myself and the Department of Finance. We will not be gifting any fire stations, whether it is in Geraldton or any other station in Western Australia.